Gujarat Forestry Development Project

3161. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has submitted a new forestry development project for funding by JBIC;

(b) whether the proposal has been passed on to JBIC; and

(c) if not, by when it is proposed to be passed on to JBIC?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The project has been approved in principle by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. It has been decided to pose the same to Japan Bank for International Cooperation for seeking external assistance during 2003-2004.

Central amount for Bhadra Wild Life Sanctuary

3162. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for purposes of acquisition of land for setting up Wild Life Sanctuary at Bhadra, Government of India are yet to release the balance amount of Rs. 7.30 crores; and

(b) if so, by when the funds are proposed to be released?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 11.74 crores has been approved by Government of India for the purpose of acquisition of land to resettle the villages shifted from inside Bhadra Wild Life Sanctuary. Out of this, Rs. 9.68 crores has already been released to the State Government of Karnataka. The balance of Rs. 2.06 crores will be released after the receipt of utilization certificate from the State Government.

Yamuna pollution by Indraprastha Power Station

†3163. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Capital's oldest power generation centre, Indraprastha Power Station, is polluting the Yamuna river;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the quantity of the suspended solids has been found many times more than the prescribed standard, after the sample test of emissions conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in the power station; and

(c) if so, the details of plan formulated to save the Yamuna river from pollution and to reduce the quantity of solid emitted by the power station?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring the ash pond effluent of the Indraprastha Power Station since February 1999. Results of samples drawn during October-November 2002 by them has shown that the concentration of suspended solids was exceeding on 15th and 22nd November 2002.

(c) Indraprastha Power Station has been asked to avoid discharge of polluted effluent containing high suspended solids into the river Yamuna by adoption of better ash pond management practices like continuous sprinkling of water on the filled ash ponds to avoid re-suspension of dust and to find out alternate ash disposal site wherein ash from filled in ponds could be disposed till the adoption of long term steps, *i.e.*, installation of fly ash brick manufacturing plant, which is scheduled to be commissioned by the year 2003.

Foreign funds for afforestation in Assam

3164. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds granted by international institutions for development of Afforestation Projects in Assam during the last three years;

(b) the details of amount remained unutilised during that period; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken by the Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No afforestation projects have been implemented with international assistance in Assam during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.